

Raised Bill No. 1094 AN ACT CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF READING MODELS OR PROGRAMS

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February 28, 2023

Senator Douglas McCrory  
Representative Jeffrey Currey  
Members of the Education Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 3100  
Hartford, CT 06106

To: Senator Douglas McCrory, Representative Jeffrey Currey, and honorable members of the Education Committee:

As a former Connecticut public school teacher and current resident, I am writing in regard to S.B. No. 1094 An Act Concerning the Implementation of Reading Models or Programs. I support the foundational concepts of the Right to Read legislation in order to advance literacy instruction and student outcomes, including:

- A reading curriculum that grows students who love to read and have strong skills in oral language, phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name/letter fluency, and reading comprehension.
- Training for all school leaders and teachers in the Science of Reading.
- RTI to provide Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention for children who are reading below grade level.

I recommend the following considerations to S.B. No. 1094 An Act Concerning the Implementation of Reading Models or Programs, in an effort to create a more intentional, inclusive, and effective improvement:

- An extension for full and intentional implementation by July 1, 2025.
- Curriculum development and decisions should be enacted with **teachers at the table**.
- **Curriculum should be implemented with a keen lens for equity**. Several of the approved programs have been identified as lacking cultural responsiveness by a [recent study led by NYU](#). Given the goal set forth is to address the achievement and opportunity gaps, equity should be a priority in curriculum development, selection, and implementation.
- **The mandate must be funded** in order to support leaders and teachers with professional development in the Science of Reading and to implement program reviews and materials.